Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food

Crop Report

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Crop Report for April 9, 2006

Saskatchewan farmers are planning to seed 34.6-million acres, which is two per cent above the 10-year average of 33.9-million acres, and is two per cent below last year's 35.3-million acres, according to Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food's first weekly crop report for 2006.

Summerfallow area is estimated to increase approximately 600,000 acres from 2005 to 6.9-million acres, and it is 17 per cent below the 10-year average.

Crops that could show increases in acreage seeded from last year include spring wheat, oats, triticale, peas and chickpeas. Crop reporters indicate that there is still a lot of uncertainty about seeding plans and seeding intentions could still change. Statistics Canada will release the results of their seeding intentions survey on April 25.

According to Saskatchewan Watershed Authority's April 2006 report, in the grainbelt region, winter precipitation totals generally vary from below normal in southern areas to well above normal in central and northern areas. Runoff is generally finished across the southern and western areas of the province. High flows are currently being experienced in central areas (Davidson – Outlook) causing water to flow over some roads and flooding of some agricultural lands. North central and north eastern areas still remain snow covered, and these areas are expected to experience a significant runoff this spring.

SCIC Crop Report submission, April 2006

If you received an extension of insurance on a crop in the fall of 2005, Saskatchewan Crop Insurance reminds you to notify your customer service office as soon as you complete harvest and/or before to putting your crop to any alternate use (abandoning, baling, grazing, etc.). In all cases, claims due to either yield or quality losses must be finalized by June 10, 2006, and any harvested production information is required to update your annual yield.

Keep track of upcoming Crop Insurance deadlines with your 2006 Reference, Forage or Organic Guide or with the online deadline reminder service from www.saskcropinsurance.com. Visit the link on the front page of our site and sign up today.

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1 Year Ago

Seeded area was projected at 35.3 million acres - above the 10-year average.

Spring runoff was varied, from well below normal in south western and south central areas, to slightly above normal in northern areas.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada | Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada

CANADA ~ SASKATCHEWAN Crop Insurance

2007-04488/

South eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 1, 2, & 3as-east)

Winter precipitation (November 1 to March 31) was below normal in the south eastern area of the grainbelt. The Moose Jaw area received 131% of normal winter precipitation with Indian Head receiving 97%, Broadview 91%, Regina 90%, and Estevan 79% of normal. The 2006 spring runoff is below normal to well below normal.

An average of just under 1 mm of precipitation fell during the past week, and an average of just over 1 mm has fallen since April 1, 2006. Spring rains are needed in many areas to replenish soil moisture. The weather has been favourable for calving. Some livestock are being moved from the yards to the fields.

Crop reporters expressed uncertainty about what will be seeded, largely because of economics. Some spring work is underway including fencing, cleaning grain, fertilizing hay fields, and applying pre-emergent herbicides. Grass fires are already a problem in CD 2a due to extremely dry pastures. Winter wheat crops are emerging very well in CD 2b, and some weed growth is evident.

The risk of severe grasshopper infestations is very light to moderate in a line from Stoughton to Torquay. There is risk of very light to moderate infestations in the Pangman-Lang-Weyburn areas. The remainder of the southeast is expected to have none to very light infestations of grasshoppers. Wheat midge populations are back at levels considered to be of significant risk for wheat producers. There is potential for moderate to high wheat stem sawfly damage south of Weyburn and in the Sedley area. Other areas indicate either no risk or light risk. Risk levels for bertha armyworms are expected to be low.

Seeding Intentions and Summerfallow

	2006 Acres Intended	2005 Acres** Seeded	Per cent 06/05	1996-2005 Average Acres Seeded
winter wheat*	300 000	180 000	167	138 500
spring wheat	9 260 000	8 990 000	103	10 613 000
durum	4 250 000	4 900 000	87	4 745 000
oats	2 100 000	2 000 000	105	2 130 000
barley	4 700 000	4 800 000	98	4 710 000
fall rye*	200 000	195 000	103	162 500
triticale	67 500	65 000	104	67 500
flax	1 615 000	1 620 000	100	1 258 000
canola	6 300 000	6 600 000	95	5 580 000
Total of 9 crops	**28 792 500**	**29 350 000**	98	**29 404 500**
lentils	1 990 000	2 160 000	92	1 384 000
field peas	2 725 000	2 695 000	101	2 067 000
other specialty crops***	1 078 000	1 090 000	99	n/a
Total specialty crops	5 793 000	5 945 000	97	3 451 000
Total Crops	**34 585 500**	**35 295 000**	98	**32 855 500**
summerfallow	6 900 000	6 300 000	110	8 350 000
Total Acres	**41 485 500**	**41 595 000**	100	**41 205 500**

*Statistics Canada fall planting survey
**Statistics Canada
***includes mustard, sunflower seed, canary seed, chickpeas
insufficient observations to allow for individual crop estimates

South western Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 3as-west, 3an, 3b, & 4)

Winter precipitation (November 1 to March 31) was around normal in south western areas of the grainbelt. Per cent of normal values are: Coronach – 551%, Cypress Hills – 225%, Val Marie – 127%, Swift Current – 108%, Leader – 93%, and Assiniboia – 89%. Spring runoff is below normal for much of the area and well below normal on the eastern side of the district.

An average of just under 2 mm of precipitation fell during the past week, and an average of just over 2 mm has fallen since April 1, 2006. Many areas are looking for rain to replenish the dry soil.

Crop reporters indicate that there is still lots of uncertainty about what will be seeded this spring. Several mentioned that there is talk about seeding more grass and greenfeed. Some spring work has started including chemical application and rock picking. Stinkweed and dandelions are starting to green up in CD 3asw. Fall crops and tame hay are turning green in CD 4a.

The risk of grasshopper infestations is generally very light in the southwest. Areas of moderate to severe risk are in the Glentworth/ Woodrow areas. Areas of very light to light risk for grasshoppers include Val Marie to Cadillac to McCord and from Consul south. Wheat midge populations are showing increased levels in areas around Swift Current and Gravelbourg to Chaplin. Wheat stem sawfly risk is moderate to high from Mossbank south to the U.S. border and about three to four RMs wide; in the Nevile-Ponteix-Admiral areas; and north of Swift Current up to Elrose and again about three RMs wide. Most of the remainder of the southwest indicates damage risk of none to light. Risk levels for bertha armyworms are expected to be low. The cabbage seedpod weevil has extended its range into the southwest.

East central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 5 & 6a)

Winter precipitation (November 1 to March 31) was above normal in east central areas of the grainbelt. The Wynyard and Yorkton areas received 123% to 114% of normal winter precipitation. Spring runoff is expected to be near normal to above normal. Culverts are at full capacity with some flooding in fields and water running over roads in the Churchbridge area. In the Young area, some roads are also under water.

An average of less than ½ mm of precipitation fell during the past week, and an average of 1 mm has fallen since April 1, 2006. There is still a good amount of snow in some areas, though melting has started and the water is running.

Crop reporters indicate that many farmers are undecided about spring seeding plans. There is some expectation that more acres will be seeded to grass and forage. Winter wheat is starting to green up in CD 5a. There has been some loss of crop over the winter with spoilage due to heating and deer congregating around grain piles.

The risk of grasshopper infestation is none to very light in much of the east central region, with some economic risk to lentil fields possible in the line from Moose Jaw to Dysart and in the Kelvington and Wynyard areas. Wheat midge populations are back at levels considered to be of significant risk for wheat producers. Some isolated areas show pockets of light wheat midge infestation – mainly in CD 6a. Risk levels for bertha armyworms are expected to be moderate north of Regina and in the Lockwood area. Levels in other areas are expected to be low.

West central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 6b & 7)

Winter precipitation (November 1 to March 31) was above normal in west central areas of the grainbelt. Per cent of normal values are: Elbow – 230%, Saskatoon – 163%, Outlook – 153%, Kindersley – 100%, and Scott – 91%. High flows of runoff are being experienced in the Davidson – Outlook areas with water flowing over some roads and flooding some fields. Spring runoff is expected to range from below normal on the western edge of the district to well above normal on the eastern side. Fields are very wet and drying weather will be needed before farmers can get onto the fields.

An average of 4 mm of precipitation fell during the past week, and an average of 7 mm has fallen since April 1, 2006.

Crop reporters indicate that with current commodity prices and slow grain movement, many farmers have not made final decisions on seeding plans. There is some spoilage in the grain piles.

The risk of grasshopper infestations is none to very light in much of the west central region. There is economic risk of damage to lentil fields in the Lancer, Leader, and Elrose areas. Wheat midge populations are generally low in the area, except around Kerrobert and Zealandia to Biggar where populations are somewhat more elevated. Wheat stem sawfly damage expectations are moderate to high from Macklin south to Alsask and as far east as Kerrobert. Levels of bertha armyworms are generally expected to be low, but are higher in the northern part of CD 7b.

North eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 8 & 9a-east)

Winter precipitation (November 1 to March 31) was well above

normal in north eastern areas of the grainbelt. The Prince Albert area received 135% of normal winter precipitation while the Melfort area was 115% of normal. Spring runoff has barely begun but is expected to be well above normal and cause flooding in fields.

An average of ½ mm of precipitation fell during the past week, and an average of less than ½ mm has fallen since April 1, 2006. Fields are very wet and much drying weather will be needed before field work can begin.

There is still some 2005 crop out in the northeast.

The risk of grasshopper infestations is none to very light for most of the northeast with the exception of a light to moderate risk area south of Prince Albert. Wheat midge populations are elevated in a few areas of the northeast, though are at much lower levels than the east central and south eastern areas. Wheat stem sawfly damage risk is moderate to high from Wakaw south to Dundurn and from Humboldt west to the edge of CD 8b. Bertha armyworm infestation levels are moderate north of Tisdale and in the Rosthern area. Other areas of the northeast are expected to have low levels.

North western Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 9a-west & 9b)

Winter precipitation (November 1 to March 31) was generally below normal in north western areas of the grainbelt. The Lloydminster area was 78% and North Battleford area was 67% of normal. Spring runoff is below normal in western areas to near normal in eastern areas.

An average of less than ½ mm of precipitation fell during the past week, and an average of less than ½ mm has fallen since April 1, 2006.

Crop reporters indicate that farmers are unsure of what to grow. There is still some 2005 crop left in the fields. Farmers are working on equipment and getting prepared for seeding.

The risk of grasshopper infestation is generally none to very light in the northwest. The one area of very light to moderate risk is the northwest corner from Choiceland down through St. Walburg and to Spiritwood and back up through Meadow Lake. Wheat midge populations are generally low, though are somewhat elevated south of Lloydminster and north of Radisson. Wheat stem sawfly risk is generally light, except in a diagonal from Shellbrook south to Radisson where damage risk is moderate to high. The Lloydminster area is expected to be at high risk for infestation from bertha armyworms and the North Battleford area is at a slightly higher risk than the rest of the northwest.

Weekly Rainfall Summary

(in millimeters)

for the week ending April 8, 2006

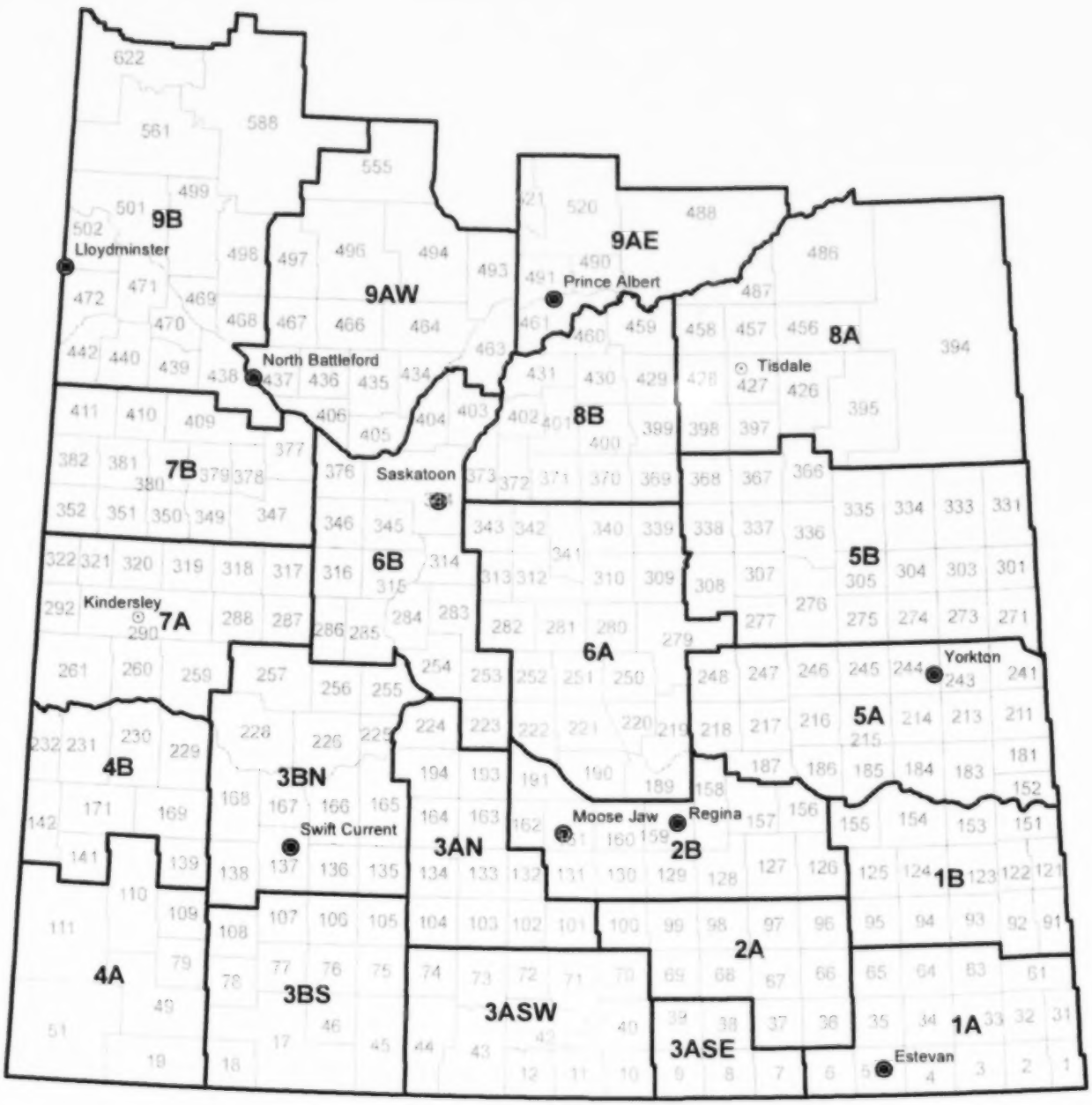
Crop Dist.	No.	Municipality Name	Past Week	Since April 1
1A	2	Mount Pleasant	NIL	8
	3 B	Enniskillen	NIL	1
	34	Browning	2	4
	35	Benson	11	11
	64	Brock	NIL	2
	65	Tecumseh	NIL	NIL
1B	92	Walpole	NIL	NIL
	92 B	Walpole	NIL	NIL
	93	Wawken	NIL	NIL
	93 B	Wawken	NIL	NIL
	95	Golden West	NIL	NIL
	121	Moosomin	NIL	NIL
	122	Martin	NIL	NIL
	123	Silverwood	NIL	NIL
	124	Kingsley	NIL	2
	125	Chester	NIL	TR
	151 B	Rocanville	NIL	TR
	153	Willowdale	NIL	NIL
	154	Elcapo	NIL	NIL
	155	Wolseley	NIL	TR
2A	36	Cymri	1	4
	67	Weyburn	TR	TR
	68	Brokenshell	NIL	NIL
	96	Fillmore	NIL	NIL
	97	Wellington	TR	1
	99	Caledonia	2	2
2B	127	Francis	TR	TR
	129	Bratt's Lake	1	4
	131	Baildon	3	7
	156 A	Indian Head	NIL	NIL
	156 B	Indian Head	1	1
	157	South Qu'appelle	NIL	NIL
	158	Edenwold	1	1
	161	Moose Jaw	NIL	NIL
3ASE	38 A	Laurier	2	2
	38 B	Laurier	1	1
3ASW	10	Happy Valley	NIL	NIL
	12	Poplar Valley	NIL	NIL
	42	Willow Bunch	NIL	NIL
	43 A	Old Post	NIL	NIL
	43 B	Old Post	NIL	NIL
	44	Waverley	NIL	NIL
	71 A	Excel	NIL	NIL
	71 B	Excel	NIL	NIL
	71 C	Excel	NIL	NIL
	73 B	Stonehenge	NIL	NIL
3AN	101 B	Terrell	2	7
	102	Lake Johnston	1	6
	132	Hillsborough	1	2
	193	Eyebrow	1	1
3BS	75 A	Pinto Creek	NIL	NIL
	75 B	Pinto Creek	NIL	NIL
	76 A	Auvergne	1	1
	78 A	Grassy Creek	2	2
	78 B	Grassy Creek	3	3
	78 C	Grassy Creek	NIL	NIL
	106	Whiska Creek	NIL	NIL
	107	Lac Pelletier	NIL	NIL
3BN	135	Lawtonia	TR	TR
	136	Coulee	1	1
	138	Webb	NIL	NIL
	165	Morse	2	2
	166	Excelsior	2	2
	226	Victory	NIL	NIL
	228 A	Lacadena	5	5
	228 B	Lacadena	5	5
	257	Monet	4	6
4A	49 B	White Valley	NIL	NIL
	51	Reno	4	4
	110	Piapot	2	2
	111 A	Maple Creek	3	3
4B	139	Gull Lake	6	6
	141	Big Stick	4	4
	142	Enterprise	10	10
	231	Happyland	8	8
	232	Deer Forks	9	9
5A	152	Spy Hill	NIL	NIL
	183	Fertile Belt	NIL	NIL
	185	Mcleod	TR	TR
	186	Abernethy	NIL	NIL
	187	North Qu'appelle	NIL	NIL
	211	Churchbridge	NIL	NIL
	213	Saltcoats	TR	TR
	216	Tullymet	NIL	NIL
	217 A	Lipton	NIL	NIL
	217 B	Lipton	NIL	NIL
	243	Wallace	NIL	NIL
	245 A	Garry	NIL	NIL
	245 B	Garry	NIL	NIL
	246	Ituna Bon Accord	NIL	NIL
	247	Kellross	NIL	NIL
5B	271	Cote	NIL	NIL
	273	Sliding Hills	NIL	NIL
	275 B	Insinger	NIL	NIL
	277	Emerald	NIL	NIL
	304	Buchanan	NIL	NIL
	307	Elfros	NIL	NIL
	333	Clayton	NIL	NIL
	335	Hazel Dell	NIL	NIL
	336	Sasman	NIL	NIL
	337	Lakeview	1	1
	338	Lakeside	NIL	NIL
	366 A	Kelvington	NIL	NIL
	366 B	Kelvington	NIL	NIL
6A	189	Lumsden	TR	TR
	190 B	Dufferin	TR	TR
	190 C	Dufferin	TR	TR
	219 C	Longlaketon	TR	TR
	220	Mckillop	NIL	NIL
	221	Sarnia	2	2
	251	Big Arm	1	1
	312	Morris	3	3
	339 B	Leroy	NIL	3
	340 A	Wolverine	NIL	6
	341	Viscount	NIL	TR
	343	Blucher	2	19
6B	254	Loreburn	4	4
	283	Rosedale	3	4
	284	Rudy	4	6
	285	Fertile Valley	7	13
	286	Milden	7	7
	345	Vanscoy	2	14
	346	Perdue	7	23
	376 A	Eagle Creek	TR	2
7A	292	Milton	6	10
	317 C	Marriott	5	13
	318 A	Mountain View	8	16
	318 B	Mountain View	8	8
	320	Oakdale	13	18
	321	Prairiedale	7	15
7B	347 A	Biggar	TR	TR
	350 B	Mariposa	NIL	3
	377	Glenside	TR	TR
	378 A	Rosemount	2	2
	378 B	Rosemount	NIL	NIL
	379	Reford	TR	TR
	382	Eye Hill	TR	TR
	409	Buffalo	NIL	NIL
8A	397	Barrier Valley	NIL	NIL
	398	Pleasantdale	NIL	NIL
	456	Arborfield	NIL	NIL
	458	Willow Creek	NIL	NIL
8B	369	St. Peter	NIL	NIL
	370	Humboldt	NIL	NIL
	371	Bayne	NIL	2
	401	Hoodoo	NIL	NIL
	402	Fish Creek	NIL	NIL
	429 B	Flett's Springs	NIL	NIL
	430	Invergordon	NIL	NIL
9AE	461	Prince Albert	NIL	3
	520	Paddockwood	6	6
9AW	406	Mayfield	NIL	NIL
	435	Redberry	NIL	NIL
	436	Douglas	NIL	NIL
	463	Duck Lake	NIL	NIL
	464	Leask	TR	TR
	467	Round Hill	NIL	NIL
	494	Canwood	NIL	NIL
	496	Spiritwood	NIL	NIL
9B	438 A	Battle River	NIL	NIL
	438 B	Battle River	NIL	NIL
	440	Hillsdale	NIL	NIL
	472	Wilton	2	2
	498 A	Parkdale	NIL	NIL
	498 B	Parkdale	NIL	NIL
	499	Mervin	1	1
	501 B	Frenchman Butte	TR	TR
	502	Britannia	3	3
	561	Loon Lake	NIL	NIL
	588 C	Meadow Lake	NIL	NIL
	588 D	Meadow Lake	1	1
	622	Beaver River	TR	T

These precipitation amounts represent point locations within each municipality and do not necessarily reflect the whole R.M.

* incomplete

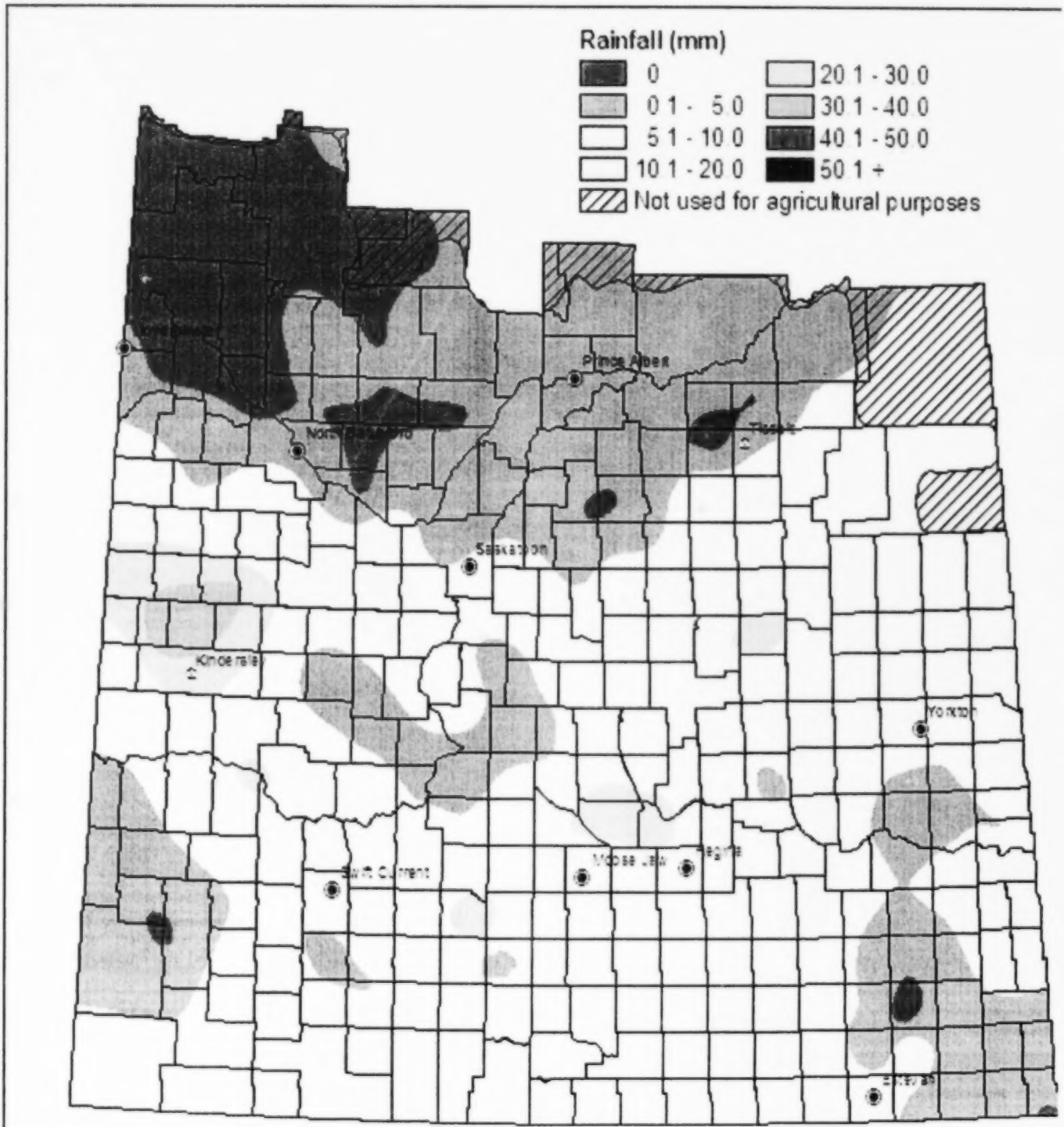
Municipality No: A, B, C, and D - more than one reporter

Crop Districts
and
Rural Municipalities



Weekly Rainfall

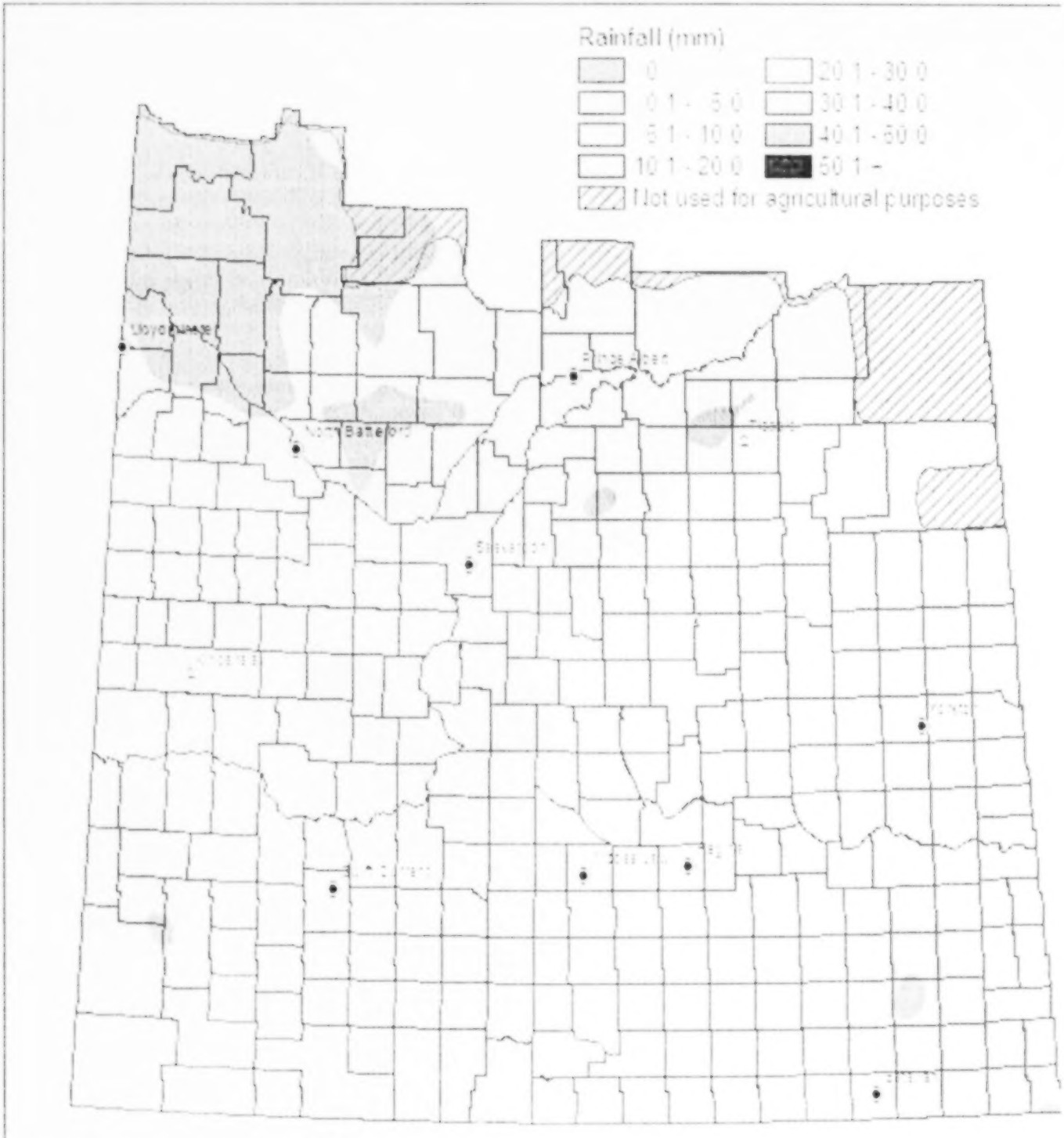
for the week ending April 15, 2006



Saskatchewan

Weekly Rainfall

for the week ending April 15, 2006



Saskatchewan